

## IF WE SUFFER WITH HIM..

### 2 Tim 2:11-13

**2 Timothy 2:11 Faithful saying:** popular saying or fragment of early hymn.

Something we can rely on; will be same forever; never change;

Not have to put disclaimer on it

Key to Christian life – crucified life.

If really want to live – must die

**2 Timothy 2:12** Reign with Christ? Rule, have authority, power, hold title, prevail, predominate; conquer, be victorious

Where reign? In His kingdom.

Jesus' desire --set up kingdom. Matthew 6:9-10; 6:33; 13:38; Mark 1:14-15

Kingdom of God: Embraces all created intelligences both in Heaven and on earth who are willingly subject to God.

Rulership, authority, Lordship Romans 14:17

Reign with Christ?

1. Born again

2. Experience true righteousness, peace, joy in Holy Ghost.

**Suffer:** Endure, persevere, stay under, remain under, have fortitude, bear, to undergo, be patient.

Axiom One: The road to life is death and the road to glory is suffering.

Context of chapter 2.

v. 3: Soldier: endure hardness

v. 5: Athlete: strive for mastery.

v. 6: Farmer/husbandman: toil

v.8: Christ: death and resurrection.

v.9: Paul's experience: I suffer trouble

v.10: I endure all things for elect's sake.

Every Christian: Blessings come through pain,

Fruit through toil

Life from death,

Glory and victory through suffering.

No pain, no gain.

No cross, no crown.

Stott: *It is this principle which took Jesus Christ through a lowly birth and a shameful death to the glorious resurrection and heavenly reign. ...*

Romans 8:16-17; 2 Corinthians 4:16-17

**Suffer:** inconvenience – in order to experience victory must be willing to step out of comfort zone!

Time and money lose their grip when confronted by the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

**2 Timothy 2:12** ...*if we deny him, he also will deny us:*

**Deny:** not acknowledge His Lordship;

Declare untrue; contradict; refuse to submit to or obey God.

Nothing to do with losing salvation.

Contextual interpretation: Never come up with interpretation which goes against the context

Thought: If will obey Him ...He will bless you.

Disobedience (rejecting Lordship, contradicting Word by life) brings conflict (He will contradict us – deny us).

Deny Him in obedience ....deny us in His blessings.

Deny Him in worship... deny us in His joy.

Deny him in prayer ... deny us in His answers.

Deny Him in confession... deny us in His fellowship.

Deny Him in meditation of Word... deny us in His success and prosperity.

Deny Him in faithfulness...deny us in privileges of discipleship.

Deny Him in finances/tithes...

Deny Him in convenience ...deny us in His power.

**2 Timothy 2:13** *If we believe not...* lifestyle of unfaithfulness!

Disloyal, untrue, unfaithful to Lord Jesus Christ.

*Yet he abideth faithful.... He remains true to His own nature, righteous character, and requirements, according to which He cannot accept as faithful one who has been proven untrue to Himself. To do this would be to deny Himself.*

It would be a denial of his very nature to bless those who are unfaithful.

Romans 3:3-4; Heb 12 – chastening;

Bitter? Don't be surprised when depressed, sick, defiled, overwhelmed with temptations can't handle. Hebrews 12:15

Lifestyle and unbelief do not negate the promises of God.

If choose to deny God by lifestyle,

God remains faithful to Word.

He won't go against Word.

**SO WHAT?**

1. Be dead with Him...Live with Him.

2. Want Victory, peace, righteousness and joy in the Holy Spirit?

If suffer with Him-- reign with him.

3. If reject Him and disobey Him--Deny Him--He will deny us.

4. God always keeps Word. *If believe not yet He abideth faithful. He cannot deny Himself....*